

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Richard Norris DODGE II et al.

Title: ABSORBENT MATERIALS HAVING  
IMPROVED FLUID INTAKE AND LOCK-UP  
PROPERTIES

Express Mail No.: EV318091209US

Date of Deposit: 30 September 2003

**FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Rule 1.56, the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited during prosecution of the patent applications listed below, which are relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120:

Title: ABSORBENT MATERIALS HAVING IMPROVED  
FLUID INTAKE AND LOCK-UP PROPERTIES  
Applicant(s): Richard Norris DODGE II et al.  
Serial No.: 10/017,683  
Filing Date: 14 December 2001  
Attorney Docket No.: KCC-16,247

Title: ABSORBENT MATERIALS HAVING IMPROVED  
FLUID INTAKE AND LOCK-UP PROPERTIES  
Applicant(s): Richard Norris DODGE II et al.  
Serial No.: 10/291,239  
Filing Date: 08 November 2002

Express Mail No.: EV318091209US

Docket No.: K-C 16247.3

Attorney Docket No.: KCC-16,247.1

and are hereby brought to the attention of the Examiner as possibly being material to examination of the subject application.

The following co-pending patent applications were also cited during prosecution of the above-referenced parent application.

Applicants: Jian QIN et al.  
Title: ABSORBENT MATERIALS HAVING IMPROVED  
ABSORBENT PROPERTIES  
Serial No.: 10/017,465  
Filing Date: 14 December 2001  
Docket No.: KCC-15,865

Title: ABSORBENT MATERIALS HAVING HIGH  
STIFFNESS AND FAST ABSORBENCY RATES  
Applicant(s): Richard Norris DODGE II et al.  
Serial No.: 10/291,187  
Filing Date: 08 November 2002  
Attorney Docket No.: KCC-16,247.2

A copy of the above co-pending patent applications and the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are not enclosed as they are contained in the file of the related parent application.

The following co-pending patent application is hereby brought to the attention of the Examiner as possibly being material to examination of the subject application. A copy of the following co-pending patent application is enclosed.

Title: HIGH STIFFNESS ABSORBENT POLYMERS  
HAVING IMPROVED ABSORBENCY RATES  
AND METHOD FOR MAKING THE SAME

Express Mail No.: EV318091209US

Docket No.: K-C 16247.3

Applicant(s): Jian QIN et al.  
Serial No.: 10/291,237  
Filing Date: 08 November 2002  
Attorney Docket No.: KCC-18,781

Form PTO-1449 (5 pages) is enclosed without copies of these references as they are contained in the file of the related parent application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Swanson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark D. Swanson  
Registration No. 48,498

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FORM PTO-1449  
(MODIFIED)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

K-C 16247.3

SERIAL NO.

**LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S)

Richard Norris DODGE II et al.

FILING DATE

GROUP

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,364,382	11/1994	Latimer et al.			
	AB	5,490,846	02/1996	Ellis et al.			
	AC	5,509,915	04/1996	Hanson et al.			
	AD	5,651,862	07/1997	Anderson et al.			
	AE	4,127,547	11/1978	Smarook			
	AF	4,179,540	12/1979	Smarook			
	AG	4,394,930	07/1983	Korpman			
	AH	4,410,571	10/1983	Korpman			
	AI	4,559,243	12/1985	Pässler et al.			
	AJ	4,758,466	07/1988	Dabi et al.			
	AK	5,149,335	09/1992	Kellenberger et al.			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AL	86/03505	06/1986	PCT				
	AM	99/61518	12/1999	PCT				
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

**OTHER PRIOR ART** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

USCOMM-DC 80-3985

P1005.wpd/ paf

FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. K-C 16247.3	SERIAL NO.
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		FILING DATE	GROUP

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,252,619	10/1993	Brownscombe et al.			
	AB	5,252,619	10/1993	Brownscombe et al.			
	AC	5,268,224	12/1993	DesMarais et al.			
	AD	5,290,820	03/1994	Brownscombe et al.			
	AE	5,300,054	04/1994	Feist et al.			
	AF	5,304,161	04/1994	Noel et al.			
	AG	5,328,935	07/1994	Van Phan et al.			
	AH	5,334,621	08/1994	Beshouri			
	AI	5,338,766	08/1994	Phan et al.			
	AJ	5,358,974	10/1994	Brownscombe et al.			
	AK	5,439,458	08/1995	Noel et al.			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,550,167	08/1996	DesMarais			
	AB	5,563,179	10/1996	Stone et al.			
	AC	5,571,849	11/1996	DesMarais			
	AD	5,573,994	11/1996	Kabra et al.			
	AE	5,612,385	03/1997	Ceaser et al.			
	AF	5,632,737	05/1997	Stone et al.			
	AG	5,692,939	12/1997	DesMarais			
	AH	5,733,272	03/1998	Brunner et al.			
	AI	5,763,067	06/1998	Brüggemann et al.			
	AJ	5,763,499	06/1998	DesMarais			
	AK	5,786,395	07/1998	Stone et al.			

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*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,795,921	08/1998	Dyer et al.			
	AB	5,843,063	12/1998	Anderson et al.			
	AC	5,849,805	12/1998	Dyer			
	AD	5,851,648	12/1998	Stone et al.			
	AE	5,851,672	12/1998	Wang et al.			
	AF	5,869,171	02/1999	Shiveley et al.			
	AG	5,873,869	02/1999	Hammons et al.			
	AH	5,899,893	05/1999	Dyer et al.			
	AI	5,904,675	05/1999	Laux et al.			
	AJ	5,948,829	09/1999	Wallajapet et al.			
	AK	5,985,432	11/1999	Wang et al.			

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<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,985,434	11/1999	Qin et al.			
	AB	6,019,871	02/2000	Rökman et al.			
	AC	6,027,795	02/2000	Kabra et al.			
	AD	6,033,769	03/2000	Brueggemann et al.			
	AE	6,071,580	06/2000	Bland et al.			
	AF	6,083,211	07/2000	DesMarais			
	AG	6,103,358	08/2000	Brüggemann et al.			
	AH	6,261,679	07/2001	Chen et al.			
	AI	5,372,877	12/1994	Kannankeril			
	AJ	5,601,542	02/1997	Melius et al.			
	AK						
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLAS S	SUBCLAS S	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AL	WO 00/78369	12/2000	PCT			
	AM	WO 00/38610	07/2000	PCT			
	AN	WO 01/13843	03/2001	PCT			
	AO	WO 02/49565	06/2002	PCT			
	AP						
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